

Message Text

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62

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 /051 W

----- 122748

P R 191909Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6293

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 0898

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD TD

SUBJ: CIVAIR: PANAM'S SCHEDULE CHANGE APPLICATION LIKELY

TO BE DENIED BY GOTT

1. PANAM'S LOCAL OFFICE, AT SUGGESTION OF PANAM HEADQUARTERS, CONTACTED EMBASSY APRIL 18 AND 19 TO INFORM US THAT PANAM IS STILL AWAITING GOTT APPROVAL OF A SCHEDULE CHANGE PROPOSED FOR WEEK OF APRIL 22. CHANGE INVOLVES RE-ROUTING TWICE-WEEKLY FLIGHT FROM NEW YORK TO PORT OF SPAIN AND GEORGETOWN VIA SANTO DOMINGO INSTEAD OF SAN JUAN. PANAM SAYS IT SOUGHT APPROVAL FOR THIS CHANGE (FIRST FLIGHT ACTUALLY AFFECTED BY IT IS ON APRIL 26) FROM GOTT'S AIR TRANSPORT LICENSING BOARD (ATLA) ON FEBRUARY 22, AND AGAIN ON MARCH 21. ATLA HELD NO MEETINGS DURING MARCH, BUT NOW IS SCHEDULED TO MEET APRIL 24. PANAM'S LOCAL OFFICE IS CONCERNED THAT ATLA CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST WILL BE POSTPONED, SINCE IT HAS LEARNED INFORMALLY THAT ATLA MAY AWAIT RULING BY U.S. CAB ON PROPOSED PANAM AND AMERICAN AIRLINES ROUTE EXCHANGE.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED MATTER WITH LOCAL DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, WHO CONFIRMED BARE FACTS OF ISSUE, AND ALTHOUGH UNWILLING TO SPECULATE AS TO ATLA ACTION, HE IMPLIED POST-PONEMENT LIKELY. HE SAID THAT BOTH EASTERN AND BWIA HAVE FILED FORMAL OBJECTIONS WITH CAB TO PANAM-AA ROUTE EXCHANGE

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REQUEST. ACCORDING TO DIRECTOR, MEMBERS OF ATLA BELIEVE

THAT PANAM REQUEST TO GOTT IS PART OF ROUTE EXCHANGE STRATEGY,
AND THUS ATLA DOES NOT WISH TO MAKE ANY DECISION WHICH MIGHT
WEAKEN BWIA'S POSITION WITH CAB ON ROUTE EXCHANGE ISSUE.

3. EMBASSY WILL DISCUSS ISSUE WITH LOCAL PANAM DIRECTOR (WHO IS
NOW VACATIONING OUT OF TRINIDAD) ON HIS RETURN APRIL 22, AND
WILL REPORT FURTHER AS NECESSARY.

MILLER

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Message Attributes

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